

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY USSR (Kalinin Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Materials in Short Supply at Branch No. 1, NII 88, Gorodomlya Island

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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1. Tin bars, approximately 40 pounds each, and relatively pure in content, were always in short supply. This shortage sometimes curtailed activity in the sections where the metal was needed in soldering.

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2. Mercury was another metal which was always in short supply. received a total of about 18 kilos in five and a half years and the quality was very poor. The mercury had a lead content as high as 10 to 12 percent.

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3. Copper was another metal difficult to obtain. unable to obtain pure electrolytic copper.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Semi-manufactured Metals

4. [ ] during [ ] four years [ ] 25X1  
 worked with U-beams, I-beams, angle irons, rods, etc., all of which came from dismantled aircraft hangars or structures. This material came possibly from German or orbit areas. [ ] also received a few railroad rails with German markings. These could have come from Germany or from track laid by Germans in the USSR during the German advance into Soviet territory. These scrap metals and beams were utilized by the construction group on the Island wherever possible, for door frame mounts to such things as the framework for a rebuilt electric station. The dismantled goods were not used in the laboratory for missile part construction.

5. [ ] at least two or three thousand meters of piping, one and one-half to two and one-half inches in diameter, was installed on the Island. 25X1  
 [ ] 25X1

6. [ ] only German cable on the Island. At first, old, reclaimed German cable, some of copper, some of aluminum, was used for conducting heavy current on the Island. The Soviets possessed an unlimited amount of lead-sheathed copper telephone cable which they used for their telephone and radio amplifier network. At least 20 kilometers of this cable was laid on the Island. This cable was identical to that used by the German Army; and, from the generous way it was used, [ ] the Soviets had plenty of it. Since this was all new Siemens cable, [ ] it was captured or removed from a warehouse in Germany. [ ] not of post-war manufacture. The supply of German cable seemed to be endless, and each winter more of it appeared on the Island. It was always dismantled cable, and with the increased need for it on the Island the Soviets began using both the copper and the aluminum cables. This heavy-current cable had been very carelessly rolled up before being brought to the Island, and was also unwound and laid underground in a negligent manner. Consequently the cables suffered numerous water breaks, which caused a power failure on an average of once per month. 25X1  
 [ ] 25X1

7. Copper wire of small diameters was available to a certain extent, but heavier wire was quite difficult to obtain. The very fine wire (0. 1mm to 0. 08mm) was either procured from [ ] Hun-  
 dreds of rolls of this wire were used [ ] on the Island. All the [ ] wire was wound on metal spools, whereas the [ ] Soviet wire was wound on wooden spools. 25X1  
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8. [redacted] six to ten rolls of 0.1 mm copper wire with the label of Vogel Wire and Cable Works from East Berlin. Also [redacted] there were between twenty and thirty rolls of [redacted] wire of the following types: 25X1  
 a. constantan wire, 0.08mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 50 grams  
 Constantan wire, 0.25mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 2 kilos  
 Constantan wire, 0.55mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 4 kilos  
 Constantan wire, 0.8mm, oxidized, roll of approximately 4-5 kilos  
 b. Nickeline wire, 0.1mm (approx.), silk covered, roll of approx. 300 grams  
 Nickeline wire, 0.25mm (approx.), silk covered, roll of approx. 1 kilo  
 c. Manganin wire, 0.1mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 300 grams  
 Manganin wire, 0.18mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 800 grams  
 Manganin wire, 0.25mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 1 kilo  
 Manganin wire, 0.35mm, silk covered, roll of approximately 1.5 kilos  
 Manganin wire, 0.5mm, unlaquered, rolls of approximately 3-5 kilos  
 Manganin wire, 0.6mm, unlaquered, rolls of approximately 3-5 kilos  
 d. Chrome-nickel wire, bare, 0.2mm, one roll of 100 grams which had to last the five and one-half years.  
 At least one roll each of chrome-nickel, oxidized, in sizes 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, and 0.8, and weighing 3 to 5 kilos each, arrived later. These went directly to the Soviet workshops. Chrome-nickel ribbon [redacted] arrived, about 300 meters in length, 2 x 0.2 mm and 4 x 0.3 mm in size. This was first-class material, and therefore probably not of Soviet manufacture. 25X1  
 9. Hair wires (very thin, fine wires) were unobtainable during the five and one-half years [redacted] 25X1  
 10. [redacted] requests for Wollaston wire were also absolutely futile. 25X1

Other Items

11. It was impossible to obtain calibrated glass tubing from the Soviets [redacted] 25X1

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12. Porcelain tubes for thermal elements were difficult to obtain. [redacted] delivery was made about three-fourths of a year after ordering.

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13. After several years of requesting platinum and platinum-iridium thermal elements, [redacted] received a total of three in 1951. The paper work involved in the handling of rare metals like gold or platinum in the workshops was almost beyond comprehension.

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14. Gantal, an electric heating-wire alloy [redacted] was received only on occasional shipments. It was always difficult to obtain, and was sent [redacted] in very small quantities.

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15. [redacted] requested a special alloy (Permenorm) which has a very high saturation curve (25,000 gauss). The Soviets provided [redacted] small amounts which [redacted] were originally of [redacted] manufacture, built into [redacted] equipment and dismantled by the Soviets.

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16. The Soviets were not able to provide [redacted] permalloy for use in cores in the electrical laboratory. Instead, [redacted] cannibalized from German war equipment, available in considerable quantity, to fabricate the cores.

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17. [redacted] cement was the only type of cement [redacted] on Gorodomlya Island. Without exception, [redacted] the paper bag containers bore the label of Ruedersdorf or Troisdorf, Germany (East Zone).

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